

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 H04L12/56

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 H04L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 1 041 775 A (IBM) 4 October 2000 (2000-10-04) column 3, line 20 - column 5, line 36; figures 1,2	1-10
A	----- "Virtual Router Redundancy Protocol (VRRP) White Paper" WHITE PAPER NORTEL NETWORKS, XX, XX, 2000, pages 1-12, XP002253293 the whole document	1-10
A	----- EP 1 189 384 A (ALCATEL CANADA INC) 20 March 2002 (2002-03-20) paragraphs '0012! - '0017! paragraphs '0020! - '0026!; figure 1 ----- -/--	1-10

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

12 January 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

20/01/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Kreppel, J

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2002/186653 A1 (JENSEN KELL MICHAEL) 12 December 2002 (2002-12-12) paragraphs '0012!, '0013!; figure 1 paragraphs '0026! - '0031!; figure 3 -----	1-10

Information on patent family members

Additional Application No
/IB2004/052681

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 1041775	A	04-10-2000	EP 1041775 A1	04-10-2000
			JP 3583049 B2	27-10-2004
			JP 2000307657 A	02-11-2000
EP 1189384	A	20-03-2002	CN 1345148 A	17-04-2002
			EP 1189384 A2	20-03-2002
			JP 2002135328 A	10-05-2002
US 2002186653	A1	12-12-2002	NONE	